## REMARKS

The application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated July 11, 2001.

Claims 1-27 are pending in this application, with claims 1, 18 and 23 being in independent

form. By the present Amendment, claims 1, 18 and 23 have been amended. It is submitted

that no new matter has been added and no new issues have been raised by the present

Amendment.

Claims 1-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly anticipated by U.S.

Patent No. 5,950,207 to Mortimore et al. Claims 1-27 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C.

Section 102(e) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,971,923 to Finger. Applicants

have carefully considered Examiners comment and the cited art, and respectfully submit that

independent claims 1, 18 and 23 are patentably distinct over the cited art, for at least the

following reasons.

Independent claim 1 relates to a method of generating medical information including

quantitative and image data, comprising steps of performing an image acquisition of at least a

portion of patient to be examined, generating image data based on the performed acquisition,

generating quantitative data based on the performed acquisition and constructing a DICOM

compatible file, the image data being provided in an image data field and the quantitative data

being provided in a field of the DICOM compatible file other than the image data field.

Mortimore et al., as understood by Applicants, relates to a computer based multimedia

medical database management system and user interface. A unique identifier is generated and

linked to each data object, preferably at the time the images are generated. A graphical

representation of the identifier is incorporated into the image or text when displayed or

printed. As described at column 5 lines 32-51 of Mortimore et al., text objects may accompany the image data. Text objects such as patient name, date, reports etc. related to an image or set of images may be linked with the data by assigning an identifier to the text object. Text objects may include, for example, information relating to the images or the patient or other notes and comments from hospital staff. The text object and data object may then be linked for example according to their respective identifiers. A separate identifier may be assigned to a data object containing the identifiers for both the text object and the data object, as well as any other associated data.

However, Applicants find no teaching or suggestion of a method of generating medical information including quantitative and image data, comprising generating image data and quantitative data based on a performed acquisition, and constructing a DICOM compatible file, the image data being provided in an image data field and the quantitative data being provided in a field of the DICOM compatible file other than the image data field, as recited in independent claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicants, submit independent claim 1 is patentably distinct from Mortimore et al.

Finger, as understood by Applicants relates to an apparatus and method for processing ultrasound data. As described at column 22 lines 63-67 of Finger, in addition to any processing of the ultrasound data, a CPU 74 can generate text and graphics for display with the ultrasound image data.

However, Applicants also find no teaching or suggestion in Finger of constructing a DICOM compatible file, the image data being provided in an image data field and quantitative

data being provided in a field of the DICOM compatible file other than the image data field, as recited in independent claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicants submit independent claim 1 is also patentably distinct over Finger.

In addition, Applicants submit independent claims 18 and 23 are also patentably distinct over the cited art. For example, Applicants find no teaching or suggestion of generating a report image file from quantitative data, embedding the report image file as an image file portion of a DICOM file and embedding the quantitative data, used to create the report image file, in a field of the DICOM file other than the image data field, as recited in independent claim 18. In addition, Applicants find no teaching or suggestion of a computer executable software code as recited in independent claim 23, including code for embedding a bitmap image file in an image field of a DICOM compliant file and code for embedding the quantitative data in a field of DICOM compliant file other than the image field, as recited in independent claim 23.

Accordingly, Applicants submit independent claims 18 and 23 are also patentably distinct from the cited art.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required in connection with this amendment and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

If a petition for an extension of time is required to make this response timely, this paper should be considered to be such a petition, and the Commissioner is authorized to charge the requisite fees to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

If a telephone interview could advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney.

Entry of this amendment and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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## VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES IN THE CLAIMS

1.  (Amended)          A method of generating medical information including quantitative and image data, comprising steps of:

> performing an image acquisition of at least a portion of patient to be examined;
>
> generating image data based on the performed acquisition;
>
> generating quantitative data based on the performed acquisition; and
>
> constructing a DICOM compatible file, the image data being provided in an image data

field and the quantitative data being provided in [another] a field of the DICOM compatible

file other than the image data field.


18.  (Amended)          A method of generating a DICOM file including embedded quantitative data, said method comprising:

> generating a report image file from quantitative data;
>
> embedding the report image file as an image file portion of the DICOM file; and
>
> embedding the quantitative data, used to create the report image file, in [another] a

field of the DICOM file other than the image data field.


23.  (Amended)          A computer executable software code stored on a computer readable medium, the code for creating a DICOM compliant file, said code comprising:

> code for creating a report, including quantitative data, from acquisition data generated

by an image capture device or another form of data entry;

> code for creating a bitmap image file representing the created report;

code for embedding the bitmap image file in an image field of a DICOM compliant file; and

code for embedding the quantitative data in [another] a field of the DICOM compliant file other than the image field.